

to swoop and soar over many miles of country in which one had toiled and sweated for many weeks.

I have tried to describe in barest outline the nature of the country in which I collected, and one or two outstanding experiences. Perhaps the photographs handed round will help to fill in the story. Very little has been said about the results of the expedition. All I am going to say is that I brought back about 1000 birds, and when the collection is properly worked out I hope it will be possible to publish some observations.

In the meantime I think it can be said that the expedition was very successful. I am sure you will agree that it could hardly have been so unless it ran smoothly from beginning to end. Col. Cave saw to that with meticulous care.

A new Race of Scrub Warbler from the Southern Sudan and of a Babbler from Western Abyssinia.

Mr. J. D. MACDONALD described the following :—

***Bradypterus cinnamomeus cavei*, subsp. nov.**

Description.—Distinguished from *B. c. cinnamomeus* by the much darker—chocolate-brown as distinct from rufous-brown—colour of the upper parts.

Distribution.—Imatong Mountains, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, over 8000 feet.

Type.—Adult male from Kipia, Imatong Mountains, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, 3° 57' N., 32° 57' E.; plumage in average condition: collected by J. D. Macdonald on January 8, 1939, in forest shrubbery at 8800 feet: Brit. Mus. Reg. no. 1939.10.1.4.

Measurements of Type.—Culmen from base 16, wing 63, tail 71, tarsus 24 mm.

Remarks (additional specimens).—This race is represented by the following :—

Collected by F. O. Cave :

Male and female, Kipia, 9000 feet, 31. v. 37.

Sex ?, Lomoling, 8000 feet, 10. ii. 38.

Juv., Lomoling, 29. iv. 38.

Collected by J. D. Macdonald :

One male and three females, Kipia, 8600–8800 feet, 27. xii. 38 and 4, 5, 11. i. 39.

Female, Mt. Kineti, 10,400 feet, 1. i. 39.

Habits.—For some time before I secured a specimen this bird was known to me by its plaintive and rather irritating note, which was difficult to distinguish from that of *Pseudoalcippe abyssinicus*. Both birds were found in the same localities, creeping about in dense shrubbery. *Bradypterus* in particular rarely went higher than a few feet above the ground or exposed itself outside its covert. If it had not been that one could eventually run an elusive note to earth, fewer specimens would have been secured.

Specimens were first obtained by Col. F. O. Cave and were identified by me as *Bradypterus cinnamomeus*, and recorded by Cave as an extension of distribution in 'Sudan Notes and Records,' vol. xxi. p. 181, 1938. At that time racial status had not been considered.

Many races of this species have been described, and are apparently still struggling for recognition. At the present time their claims have not been studied, but it is at least evident, when the series in the National Collection is arranged geographically, that the race described above stands out clearly.

It is interesting to record that this bird was not found on either the Dongotona or Didinga Mountains.

This race is named in honour of Col. F. O. Cave, who in recent years has added a great deal to the knowledge of bird life in the southern Sudan.

***Turdoides leucopygia clarkei*, subsp. nov.**

Description.—This race is distinguished from *T. l. smithii* in having the chin dark-coloured instead of white, and from *T. l. omoensis* in having the lores and area under the eye whitish instead of black, and in the throat being sooty instead of black.

Distribution.—Baro River in Western Abyssinia, in the vicinity of Goré and Buré.

Type.—Adult male from Gummaro, near Goré, western Abyssinia: collected by Odon Kovács, 11. vii. 1917. Brit. Mus. Reg. no. 1938.5.18.1.

Measurements of Type.—Culmen from base 25, wing 104, tail 101, tarsus 34 mm.

Remarks.—The race is based on eight specimens, the type and five others collected by Kovács near Goré, and two specimens obtained by L. C. G. Clarke near the Didessa River valley, some distance to the east of Goré. Kovács' specimens are: 2 males, Buré, 22. ix. 1916; female, Gummaro, 27. vii. 1917; female, Isuré, 27. ix. 1916. Stephenson Clarke's specimens are: female, Dabana, 25. ii. 1912; female, Bello, 2. iii. 1912.—the former showing signs of intergradation with *T. l. smithii*.

The race is named in honour of Col. Stephenson Clarke, who presented two of the above specimens to the British Museum.

I am indebted to Captain Esmé Erskine, late British Consul at Goré, for telling me that Gummaro is the name of an estate and stream a few miles west of the British Consulate at Goré, where Kovács is known to have collected.

The Jackdaws of the Palæarctic Region, with Descriptions of three new Races.

DR. ANDREW KLEINER sent the following, which was communicated on his behalf by Mr. N. B. KINNEAR, who also showed photographs taken by Dr. Kleiner of skins he had examined:—

During 1938-39 I prepared my third study of the Palæarctic Corvidæ. This paper dealt with the Jackdaws, consisting of 62 pages, which is now in the press, of the 'Acta Ornithologica Musei Zoologici Polonici' of the Warsaw Museum, but owing to recent events it is doubtful if it will ever appear.

I have therefore sent a *résumé* to the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and am very grateful to the British Ornithologists' Club for publishing it.

In the course of my studies I have examined 829 skins